



# Exceptions to Reality

*Alan Dean Foster*

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## **Exceptions to Reality** Alan Dean Foster

As is evident in his many thrilling novels, Alan Dean Foster is a master at creating other worlds in an array of genres. Now he turns his imagination to the short story in these spectacular tales of outer space, cyberspace, ancient gods, modern demons, and mortal horror, including

**Panhandler** A predatory lawyer encounters a fabled boyhood hero and falls victim to the less innocent intrigues of eternal youth.

**Growth** Not even his minidrag Pip can save Flinx from the overly intimate advances of an intruder who goes entirely too far.

**Basted** A lowly, hen-pecked Egyptian discovers that the Pharaoh's tomb holds exactly what he needs for a whole new life.

**The Killing of Bad Bull** A man with a knack for getting gambling's one-armed bandits to give it up finds himself at the top—of several hit lists.

**At Sea** A poor Scandinavian captain forced into running drugs is shown a way out of his desperate straits with the help of five beautiful blondes who are simply out-of-this-world.

Open **Exceptions to Reality** to find these amazing stories and nine other irresistibly unearthly tales!

## **Exceptions to Reality Details**

Date : Published July 29th 2008 by Del Rey (first published January 1st 2008)

ISBN : 9780345496041

Author : Alan Dean Foster

Format : Paperback 272 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Fantasy, Short Stories, Fiction

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# From Reader Review Exceptions to Reality for online ebook

## Thomas says

I have said it before, Foster can spin some great yarns. He creates compelling characters and thoughtful situations, all of which entertain. This short story collection includes a Pip and Flinx story, a Humanx Commonwealth story, and a Spell singer story (a cool series I need to catch up on.) Foster is always worth reading and he has an extensive book list. Check this and his other books out.

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## Rebecca Hill says

A new author for me, in a genre I love dearly. A diverse selection of short stories, and I mean short, which was nice change to most compilations like this. Most of the stories were fabulous; I laughed out loud, cringed and was surprised a few times with the various stories in the book. Some still turn up in my dreams from time to time, which doesn't happen often. There is definitely an interest with getting lost, stranded or alienated for this author, but the settings, characters and overall stories were great. Only two were a little lack luster, but still worth the few pages it took to read. A good quick read for work, you can actually finish a whole story during lunch and not leave yourself hanging. And still get the separation between stories to enjoy each independently.

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## David says

A collection of short stories by Alan Dean Foster rather than a novel in its own right, this is, perhaps perforce, a bit hit and miss in the quality contained therein.

Each story features a short introduction by the author, explaining how the idea for that particular one came about (including one rather controversial story, and one that - to my mind - doesn't really belong in a sci-fi/fantasy collection). None are really outstanding, but neither are any dire, even if that rather controversial one included is disturbing reading.

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## skokiesam says

This is a collection of short stories by the author. It's well written and the stories are wonderful. The author has an introduction in which he mourns the dying art of the short story and is fighting to bring back its popularity. The stories average about twenty pages in length, are captivating, and are utterly clever.

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## Chris says

The stories are slight and unimpressive. It's clear Foster likes the wilderness, but not much else sticks out.

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## **Lynne says**

Some of the tales were very good, bit dated

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## **Randy says**

An eclectic collection of stories: a man who dies every night and wakes up refreshed every morning, a man who can "smell" when a slot machine is nearing payoff, even a new Pip and Flinx story.

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## **Kylie says**

As this book has been in my "currently reading" books for literally years, I decided to just pull it off the shelf already. I have not read every story in the book, and I probably won't get back to it for years. I read the stories that interested me, and I read a bunch that I thought would interest me but bored me to tears. The stories are a bit too fluffy for me. They have lots of fantasy elements that hold no interest for me at all. I like Foster for his science fiction. I am not a fantasy fan.

I only really enjoyed one story that I recall, and I probably only enjoyed it because I am a Foster fan. I would recommend this for fans only. I don't think the stories are strong enough for a non-fan to be satisfied.

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## **Riju Ganguly says**

Although famous for his novelisations of blockbuster movies, it would be unjust to remember the author only for such works. As evident from these stories, he can create his worlds deftly, with gentle touch, and a reasonably taut narrative, with particularly bright jewels getting produced when he laces the tales with humour, while some stories got bogged down by endless dialogues.

Preceded by an honest 'Introduction', and accompanied by story-notes, the stories in this collection, as well as my points against each of them (out of 5) are: -

- 1) The Muffin Migration: 3.5
- 2) Chauna: 4
- 3) At Sea: 3
- 4) The Killing of Bad Bull: 2.5
- 5) Rate of Exchange: 2.5
- 6) Wait-a-While: 2
- 7) The Short, Labored Breath of Time: 4.5 (call me romantic, but I just can't resist such stuff)
- 8) A Fatal Exception Has Occurred at: 4
- 9) Basted: 3.5
- 10) Serenade: 5 (simply awesome)
- 11) Redundancy: 2.5
- 12) Panhandler: 2
- 13) The Last Akialoa: 2

14) Growth: 2

Overall rating 3.07, so I would stop at 3.

Your call.

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